MAY 1 0 2004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

FRANZ NIEDEREDER ET (AL-1 (PCT)

SERIAL NO:

10/049,787

EXAMINER: C.C. SHAW

FILED:

February 15, 2002 GROUP: 1725

TITLE:

WELDING UNIT EQUIPPED WITH A COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE AND METHOD FOR OPERATING THE WELDING

UNIT

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION

ATT: BOX FEE AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Final Office Action dated December 8, 2003, with the time period for response being three months or March 8, 2004, and being extended two months or until May 8, 2004, please amend the above-referenced application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.